

MEADOWOOD

MEADOWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.meadowoodneighbors.org

June/July 2009

President's Message – Lisa Veldran

Dear Meadowood Neighbors - Summer is right around the corner and many exciting events are happening in our neighborhood and around the city. I hope that you are able to enjoy them all with the new Farmers Market starting June 24 being one of them! I want to thank the Meadowood Neighborhood Association Board members this year for taking the time to attend monthly meetings at the Community Center, distribute the newsletter to each neighbor and assist in the yearly membership drive. We have had thoughtful discussions at our meetings and continue to lay the groundwork for a vibrant, friendly and safe neighborhood. I want to call your attention to one new section that we will start with this newsletter issue. Many neighbors have come up to me and have asked that the neighborhood association somehow provide a forum for neighbors to thank each other. Look for a new section titled, "Thank You Neighbor!" Feel free to call or email me with your "thanks neighbor" item to include in subsequent issues of the Meadowood (271-0722 or lveldran@yahoo.com)



Meadowood Neighborhood July 4th Parade and Picnic

Don't miss this year's Fourth of July neighborhood events on Saturday, July 4th! Come on out and enjoy the fun with your family and neighbors at the children's parade in the morning and at the picnic in the afternoon.

10:00 a.m. – Bike Parade at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

This year's bike parade theme is "Star Spangle Power". You can use the theme in making costumes for yourselves and decorations for your "wheels". There will be prizes for the best-decorated bikes, wagons and children in the parade in the following categories:

- Individual ages: 0-5 years, 6-8 years and 9-12 years
- Groups: 2 or more children

There will be treats for all parade participants.

Assemble for the parade at Good Shepherd Church (church located at the corner of Whitney Way and Raymond Road):

- 10:00 a.m. Bikes Assemble
- 10:15 a.m. Judging begins
- 10:30 a.m. Parade begins

12:30 p.m. – Neighborhood Picnic/Election of MNA Board at Elver Park

The picnic will be held at the Elver Park shelter and food will be served from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The picnic is free to MNA members but you must bring your membership card for check-in. Guests accompanied by MNA members are welcome for just \$1 per person.



Election of 2009-2010 Meadowood
Neighborhood Association Officers and Area
Representatives/Call for Nominations

The nominees listed in this newsletter will appear on the ballot at the picnic. If you wish to also run for an officer position or as area representative contact Lisa Veldran at 271-0722 by Friday, June 19, 2009 so your name will appear on the ballot. The ballot will also have a write-in option for each position. Nominees must be members in good standing of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association. Check neighborhood boundaries on the insert in this newsletter issue. For more information on the duties of an officer or area representative check out the MNA Bylaws online at www.meadowoodneighbors.org

2009-2010 Meadowood Neighborhood Association Candidates

*Request an absentee ballot by mailing or dropping off a written request to Bob Rabehl at 2117 S. Whitney Way (53711) no later than Monday, June 29, 2009. Absentee ballots must be returned to Bob by Friday, July 3, 2009 to be counted.

Candidates for Officers

President	Lisa Veldran
Vice President	Bob Rabehl
Secretary	Joyce Dingman
Treasurer	Lorene Wendricks

Candidates for Area Representatives

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Dave & Jane Ross | 8. Mark & Janice Bauman |
| 2. Karen Boedecker | 9. Dave Glomp |
| 3. Bob Rabehl | 10. Reid Bowers |
| 4. Dorothy Loehrer | 11. Mary Conlin |
| 5. Sheri Rembert | 12. Patsy Ragland |
| 6. Lisa Veldran | 13. Darlene Burrell |
| 7. Lisa Schulz | 14. Tim Johnson |
| | 15. Tim Johnson |

Meadowood Kids' Garden

Every Wednesday evening from May through September neighbors meet at the Meadowood Kids' Garden. Last summer we launched our program and we're already off to a roaring start in 2009! We are seeking adults who have an interest in gardening to help out on Wednesdays from 6 p.m. - 7:30pm. You don't have to be an expert, just bring a willingness to get a little dirty. If you can't attend, but would like to contribute, consider sharing a perennial or some raspberry canes from your yard. We can also use more gardening gloves in adult size small/medium. To discuss the many ways to be involved in this thriving program for neighborhood youth, please contact Leslie Stephany at 288-8144 or email her at leslie.stephany@gmail.com



**Southwest Community
Farmers Market
Starts Wednesday, June 24!**

You no longer have to head downtown to navigate the farmers' market crowds to buy fresh produce and local food products. Beginning June 24, the Southwest Community Farmers' Market will bring those goodies to your neighborhood. You will find the market in the Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ parking lot at 1501 Gilbert Road from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday from June 24 through October 28. (Hours during the fall will be adjusted, but those are yet to be determined.) "ORUCC has graciously agreed to host this brand new market, which reflects the members' community spirit and support," says Marlys Miller, planning committee member. Market manager, Robert Pierce, also a farmer, estimates that 10 to 15 vendors will offer their fresh food products for sale during the market. "Of course, its success depends on the community supporting the vendors and buying food there," he adds. A process will be implemented to accommodate people shopping with Quest vouchers. Those participants will be able to exchange their Quest funds for farmers' market tokens, which they can then use to purchase food-stamp-approved products such as fruit, vegetables, meat, cheese and more. "This is a community effort to make fresh fruits and vegetables and other wholesome food products available to the Southwest community," says Lisa Veldran, planning committee member. The planning committee has plans to feature some of the area neighborhoods' talent and entertainment during the market. So plan to stop by to pick up something fresh and tasty, socialize with neighbors and enjoy some entertainment and community spirit. For more information, you may contact the planning committee at mmskyumah@aol.com

Southwest Madison Triad: Scams & Frauds Session
Tuesday, June 16, 2009 - 10:00 a.m.

Wisconsin Youth and Family Center, 1201 McKenna Road
Southwest Triad presents an opportunity to learn about scams and frauds that are focusing on our older citizens. Don't be a victim!!!
Speaker: Christine Barnekow, Security Administrator at Park Bank.
The program is free and the community is invited.

Neighborhood Watch Update - Tim Johnson

Meadowood has had some recent criminal activity, including a shooting at Meadowood Shopping Center a robbery/assault of a cab driver outside of Pizza Extreme, and a major arrest of two armed robbery suspects by the Fitchburg PD in the 5700 block of Russett Road on May 27. The May 27 incident involved back-up from MPD, a drug-sniffing canine, and crack cocaine was found in the suspects' vehicle. Fitchburg PD towed and impounded the suspects' vehicle.

We are revising our watch Yahoo group requirements. We will no longer require a written signed application. If you want to join the yahoo group, please send an email with your name, address and phone number (we will be keeping track of who are our watchers) to meadowoodneighborhoodwatch-subscribe@yahogroups.com. If you are having any feedback or questions, please email me at tjohnson61@yahoo.com. Just a reminder -- any watch group member can post suspicious activity or witnessed criminal activity to the Yahoo group, but please also always call the incident in to dispatch. The non-emergency number is 255-2345, and if you want to call in an incident anonymously, hit *67 before you

dial the number, and then don't give your name. If the incident is an emergency, call 911. But let your neighbors know what's going on via the Yahoo group. SALUTE format for incident reports are preferred, but not required. SALUTE is an Army acronym, which stands for Size - Activity - Location (Address) - Uniform (Description of Persons, Make/Model/Plate Number of Vehicle), Time (and Date), Equipment (if any, such as guns, powdered bags, etc.). This is only meant to be an easy way to remember all the essential elements that the police and all of us will need in reporting a criminal or nuisance activity.

Meadowood's 3rd Community Supper!

Tuesday, July 21, 2009 - 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Meadowood Park

Come meet and greet your neighbors, share a delicious meal, and discuss what is happening in the neighborhood. Updates will be given on the various southwest community gardens, the community center, the Dane County Timebank, and the southwest farmer's market. The supper is free (although a free will offering will be accepted for those who would like to contribute toward the cost of the meal). The event is being organized by the Public Health Department of Madison and Dane County. If you have questions feel free to contact Kim Neuschel, Public Health Nurse, at 516-8317.

COME AND SHARE THE ENDLESS POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITY!!

Meadowood Neighborhood Center

The Meadowood Neighborhood Center is located at 5734 Raymond Road, next to the library. The center is a pilot program that if not used will not continue to be funded. Funding is provided by the City and the Madison Metro School District. The center is open M-F, 9 am - 8 pm. The center has been open 65 days and has seen 151 unduplicated participants and 1346 duplicated participants. By the end of April the Center had hosted 75 hours of community sponsored meetings & activities and 154 hours of MSCR sponsored activities.

The summer schedule is available online at www.msqr.org or at the Meadowood Neighborhood Center. Some new adult activities include computer, writing and fitness classes as well as a knitting group. In addition to youth programming, the center will be a free lunch site for youth ages 2-17, served daily 12-1pm. Please see our summer calendar for more information or contact us at meadowood@madison.k12.wi.us or 608-467-8360. (You should have received the summer 2009 schedule either in the mail or with this newsletter. Lots of good things to take part in – and most activities are FREE!)

Meadowood Ace Hardware Handyman Service

Our business neighbor, Ace Hardware is now offering a handyman service. Just give them a call and they will discuss your project and give you an estimate over the phone.

Examples of what they can do:

Electrical – change bulbs, replace a switch or dimmer, and install indoor/outdoor light fixtures

Plumbing – fix a running toilet, install a new faucet, install a garbage disposal, and change toilet seats

Carpentry – fix a sticky door, install new door hardware/locks, rekey locks, and assemble furniture

Miscellaneous – touch up painting, trim hedges, fix a crack in walk or driveway, deliver and install water softener salt

Call 271-9799 for more information on the Meadowood Ace Hardware Handyman Service!

Thank You Neighbor! – A new column to thank those that help you throughout the year. Email Lisa at veldran@yahoo.com or call 271-0722 to leave your “thanks” for the next issue of the Meadowood.

- The Veldran Family wishes to thank Gary Kunkel, Jim Vanevenhoven, Bill Meicher and Tim Gavin for their snow blowing services this winter!
- The Ragotzkies wish to thank their neighbors for shoveling their sidewalk and keeping an eye on their house when they are gone - they are important to them!
- A big thank you to Helen Wroblewski for weeding in the medians around our neighborhood signs!

West Madison Little League Challenger Division – Volunteers Needed!

The West Madison Little League (WMLL) has started a Challenger Division providing baseball for children with disabilities. The Challenger Division will be part of the WMLL's Fall Ball program and will be offered to boys and girls ages 8 thru 16. Each player will have a “buddy” to assist them if needed. Opening day is set for September 5, 2009 and the season will be 5 weeks with games on each Saturday. To volunteer as a “buddy” for this new division please contact Bill Battista at 239-6161.

Its cancer...now what? Gilda's Club.

Gilda's Club is a free, non-profit support community for anyone touched by any kind of cancer as well as their families and friends. It's a warm and welcoming clubhouse where men, women, and children come together to build social and emotional support. The clubhouse is open to members most days and evenings, and membership is free. Gilda's Club is named after comedian Gilda Radner, best known for her work on Saturday Night Live, who died of ovarian cancer in 1989. Gilda's Club Madison officially opened its red doors on Aug. 18, 2008 and is the 23rd Gilda's Club worldwide. It is located at 7907 UW Health Court, Middleton, WI 53562 (Just behind Costco). Membership is easy. Just call the clubhouse at 608-828-8880 to register for a New Member Meeting, where you'll learn all about Gilda's. Meet with a staff member to plan your participation and then decide how you want to be involved—a lot, or a little—whatever suits your life and meets your needs. You can reach Gilda's Club by bus. The Middleton Transfer Point for the Madison Metro Bus Line is located near end of the driveway. Four routes make stops at the transfer point: 70, 71, 72 & 73. Further, if transportation to the clubhouse is a problem, just give them a call for help. For more information about Gilda's and about upcoming events call 608-828-8880 or take a look at the website: www.gildasclubmadison.org

FREE Solar Evaluation!

If you want to know if a solar system would work for you, you can use the FREE service of the solar agent. The agent was hired by the City of Madison to evaluate the solar options on your property. He also will, if you wish, help you find a contractor. All residents, businesses and non-profit organization with property in the City of Madison are eligible for this FREE service. For assistance from the Solar Agent please contact (608) 243-0586 or email solar@cityofmadison.com



DANE COUNTY SUPERVISOR – Matt Veldran
Hello Neighbors! As summer gets under way families get to spend some extra special and deserved time together, let me add my wishes for a wonderful upcoming season. If the economy has made you change your vacation plans, I suggest spending some time in our Dane County parks over the next

few months. With times tight right now, these hidden gems throughout the county are worth the time to visit, even some by bicycle along our ever expanding bike trail system throughout Dane County. And the Dane County Fair is another way to enjoy a great local event happening at the Alliant Energy Center on July 15-19.

As the economy continues to affect many of us it also affects Dane County. With expected revenues down, we have frozen all hiring of open positions, except for public safety positions; have frozen over 25 million dollars in capital spending projects that are in this year's budget, and more projects may be put on hold. Currently, the county executive has asked all departments to make significant cuts to next year's budget. This will most likely be felt by all of us. There is currently a serious shortage in the Human Services Department and we are working very hard to try to fill that budget gap.

For some better news, I have recently been appointed to and am chairing the Energy Task Force Committee. It has been charged in the short term of overseeing what energy projects and programs Dane County will apply to the Federal Government for stimulus funding grants. We have not yet finalized the list that we will submit to the Department of Energy on June 25th, but we plan on creating a revolving loan fund with up to 20% of the 2.3 million dollars we will be receiving. The loans will be available to citizens and small businesses for energy efficient projects running the gamut from insulation projects to solar powered systems. I am very excited about this, as this is money that the President through the recovery act is investing across America. By creating a revolving loan fund, instead of just a one-time grant program, we are fulfilling part of that goal. This is a way that many of us will be able to make our homes more energy efficient into the future while generating jobs locally.

I had the opportunity to meet the new 911 director John De Jung. He was the 911 director in Minneapolis and is very well regarded in the 911 field. I believe he will a stabilizing influence for the Dane County 911 center and will restore confidence in the entire department.

As of this writing, we are in the midst of “Take a Stake in the Lakes”. Feel free to check out the ongoing events at <http://www.takeastakeinthelakes.com>

Have a great Fourth of July and I hope to see many of you at the parade and the picnic! As always, feel free to call or email me with any questions or concerns you may have. Or you can now reach me on Facebook. Matt Veldran, Dane County Supervisor, District 7, veldran@co.dane.wi.us, (608) 235-8369

Summer Safety Tips

The MNA Board recently had Lt. Tony Bitterman attend our neighborhood association meeting to talk about the recent criminal activity in the neighborhood. Lt. Bitterman thought it would be a good idea to reiterate ways to keep your house safe from burglary. Here are some tips:

According to the FBI, a burglary occurs somewhere in the United States every 15.4 seconds. By definition, the crime of burglary is a non-

confrontational property crime that occurs when we are not at home. However, becoming a burglary victim can leave a family feeling vulnerable and violated. To avoid becoming a burglary victim, it is important to first gain an understanding of who commits them and why. The majority of home and apartment burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are away at work or school. The summer months of July and August have the most burglaries with February having the fewest crimes. Burglaries are committed most often by young males under 25 years of age looking for items that are small, expensive, and can easily be converted to cash. Favorite items are cash, jewelry, guns, watches, laptop computers, VCRs, video players, CDs and other small electronic devices are high on the list. Quick cash is needed for living expenses and drugs. Statistics tell us that 70% of the burglars use some amount force to enter a dwelling, but their preference is to gain easy access through an open door or window. Ordinary household tools like screwdrivers, channel-lock pliers, small pry bars, and small hammers are most often used by burglars. Burglars continue to flourish because police can only clear about 13% of all reported burglaries and rarely catch the thief in the act. What follows is a list of suggestions to minimize your risk by making your home unattractive to potential burglars.

Doors and Locks

Make your home more difficult to enter. Remember, the burglar will simply bypass your home if it requires too much effort or requires more skill and tools than they possess. Most burglars enter via the front, back, or garage doors. Experienced burglars know that the garage door is usually the weakest point of entry followed by the back door. The garage and back doors also provide the most cover. Burglars know to look inside your car for keys and other valuables so keep it locked, even when parked inside your garage.

Sliding-Glass Patio Doors

Sliding glass doors are secured by latches not locks. They are vulnerable to being forced open from the outside because of these inherently defective latch mechanisms. This can be easily be prevented by inserting a wooden dowel or stick into the track thus preventing or limiting movement. Place highly visible decals on the glass door near the latch mechanism that indicates that an alarm system, a dog, or block watch/operation identification is in place. Burglars dislike alarm systems and definitely big barking dogs.

Windows

Windows are left unlocked and open at a much higher rate than doors. An open window, visible from the street or alley, may be the sole reason for your home to be selected by a burglar. Ground floor windows are more susceptible to break-ins for obvious reasons.

- o Secure all accessible windows with secondary blocking devices
- o Block accessible windows open no more than 6 inches for ventilation
- o Make sure someone cannot reach through an open window and unlock the door
- o Make sure someone cannot reach inside the window and remove the blocking device
- o Use anti-lift devices to prevent window from being lifted out
- o Use crime prevention or alarm decals on ground accessible windows

Be a Good Neighbor

Good neighbors should look out for each other. Get to know your neighbors on each side of your home and the three directly across the street. Invite them into your home, communicate often, and establish trust. Good neighbors will watch out for your home or apartment when you are away, if you ask them. They can report suspicious activity to the police or to you while you are away. Between them, good neighbors can see to it that normal services continue in your absence by allowing vendors to mow your lawn or remove snow. Good neighbors can pick up your mail, newspapers, handbills, and can inspect the outside or inside of your home periodically to see that all is well. Good neighbors will occasionally park in your driveway to give the appearance of occupancy while you are on vacation.

- o Get to know all your adjacent neighbors
- o Invite them into your home and establish trust
- o Agree to watch out for each other's home
- o While on vacation - pick up newspapers, and flyers
- o Offer to occasionally park your car in their driveway
- o Return the favor and communicate often

Lighting

Good lighting is definitely a deterrent to criminals because they don't want to be seen or identified.

- o Use interior light timers to establish a pattern of occupancy
- o Exterior lighting should allow 100- feet of visibility
- o Use good lighting along the pathway and at your door
- o Use light timers or photo-cells to turn on/off lights automatically
- o Use infra-red motion sensor lights on the rear of single family homes

Important Phone Numbers

West Madison Police Department	243-0500
Animal Control	267-1989
Mayor's Office	266-4611
Dane County Executive's Office	266-4114
Social Security Administration	270-1141
Madison Metro	266-4466
Meadowood Neigh. Center	467-8370

MNA Board Members By Area

1. Jane & Dave Ross	271-6696
2. Cheri McKently	271-6359
3. Bob Rabehl (Treasurer)	274-3125
4. Dottie Loehrer	271-5994
5. Sherri Rembert	273-0960
6. Lisa Veldran (Pres)	271-0722
7. Lisa Schulz	271-7831
8. Janice/Mark Bauman	277-0860
9. Dave Glomp	271-9531
10. Reid Bowers	354-9313
11. Mary Conlin	271-1320
12. Lorene Wendricks (VP)	271-5054
13. Darlene Burrell	608-317-3294
14. OPEN	
15. Tim Johnson	274-3461
Secretary Joyce Dingman	244-2665